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16 March 1953

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Collection of Intelligence Materials from Overt Sources Overseas, with particular reference to Publication Procurement.

REFERENCE: A) Memorandum for DD/I from AD/CD, dated 19 February, Subject: "Collection of Intelligence Materials from Overt Sources Overseas."

1) Memorandum for DD/I from AD/IC, dated 28 February, Subject: "Comments on OCD Paper on Collection of Intelligence Materials."

C) Memorandum for DD/I from AD/RR, dated 4 February, Subject: "Request for Funds to Strengthen the Overt Foreign Map Procurement and Geographic Reporting Program, transmitting memorandum to PRC, subject as above."

1. On this date I discussed with Ted Nordbeck the problem of publication procurement, in the light of the discussions we had previously held on this subject, in the light of referenced memoranda, and in the light of concurrent budget developments in State. My proposal was that we mutually attempt to secure in the publication procurement program area a solution comparable to that attained by Reference (C), which would, at the same time, effectively accommodate the recommendations of References (A) and (B).

2. Mr. Nordbeck welcomed that approach, making the following points:

a) It will be necessary for State to maintain machinery for the collection of publications for departmental use, regardless of what other arrangements are made. State could do this through the Foreign Service.

b) The fact recited above underscores the necessity for unified direction of publication procurement in Washington, to assure adequate representation of State's interest.

State Department review completed

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c) Reference (A): It is possibly too thoroughly concentrated in European programs; the necessity for world-wide coverage should be more adequately treated. (Another aspect of this difficulty is that publication procurement cannot be limited to purely Soviet procurement; it must assure world-wide coverage).

d) Integration in Washington could be achieved by removing FFB from State and reconstituting it in CIA.

e) The responsibilities of State at present include servicing non-intelligence agencies; this service often means that the same publication desired by intelligence agencies is also desired by non-intelligence agencies. Although this problem has been consistently diminished, it still exists, and must be taken into account.

3. I have asked [REDACTED] to draft a paper, comparable to Reference (C), which will meet, in so far as possible, the above points. Mr. Nordbeck has undertaken to give this draft his close attention.

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Office of Intelligence Coordination

OIC: [REDACTED] (16 March 1953)

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